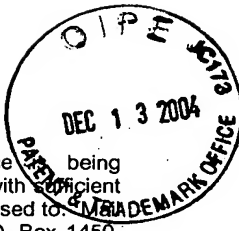


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING



I hereby certify that this correspondence being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on Dec. 10, 2004.

Sharon L. Tabor
Sharon L. Tabor

Attorney Docket No. 741890-23

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT application of)
Martin CALDWELL et al.) Confirmation No. 4375
Application No. 10/048,165) Group Art Unit: 3731
Filed: January 29, 2002) Examiner: Bradford C. Pantuck
For: A SURGICAL ACCESS DEVICE)

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 10, 2004, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

12/15/2004 AADDF01 00000007 192380 10048165

01 FC:2201 100.00 DA